

The Chaplain



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OF THEOLOGY

BULLETIN
NUMBER

Jesus in the Synagogue; by D. Mastroianni (RNS)
The spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anoint-

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T. A. Rymer, Director
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The Editor Speaks

"AND when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungered." (Matthew 4:2)

Throughout the Bible, the figure forty occurs with noticeable frequency. Flood waters covered the earth for forty days. The wanderings of the Israelites in the desert lasted forty years. Moses, Elijah and Jesus each fasted forty days in the wilderness alone as they sought intimate communion with the Spirit of God. Early Christians are reported to have abstained from food during the forty hours from Good Friday to the Easter feast commemorating the repose of Christ's body in the sepulchre.

In 325 A.D., the council of Nice, attaching symbolic importance to the number forty, set aside the forty days preceding Easter—Sundays excluded—for the absolution of penitents, preparation for baptism, individual

retreat and meditation. The great part of the Christian world at the present observes in some way this holy season.

What Fear We?

THAT the atomic bomb or any other ingenious weapons of the future will destroy civilization is unlikely. So entertained the same fears when gun powder came into use, but the force of such fear has long since been seen. Therefore spiritual leaders and teachers of today should neither yield to hysteria nor sink into anguish. To become spiritual hypochondriacs in an atomic age is no more justified than it would have been in the age of gun powder. At the moment we may be positive that our case is exceptional but the long range of history will prove that it isn't. Listeners are weary of constant allusions to sickly chaos and despairing annihilation. Many would like the words "chaos" and "annihilation" dropped from all preaching vocabularies.

The atomic age should hold no fear for us but rather invite a challenge. Only disintegration and decay of moral and spiritual fibre can bring us any real harm. This need not happen for "if God be for us, who can be against us. Therefore will not we be though the earth be removed and mountains be cast into the midst of the sea."

Psalms in Chinese

THE Psalms in modern Chinese recently came into our hands, a translation by a former member of the Supreme Court of China, Dr. J. Woo. It is probably one of the very best copies in America, coming from

(Continued on page 12)

TEXT: "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults."—Psalms 19:12

On Beginning from Within

By ROBERT JAMES MCCrackEN

THERE is a man bewildered by the mystery of his own being. He has somehow become aware that there are regions of personality which he has never explored, that there are forces at work within him which have never been brought under control, that he has "secret faults," by which we are unable to understand, not faults well-known to himself and carefully screened from others, but faults of which he himself is altogether ignorant. This man, in time, has discovered that he does not properly or adequately know himself, and the little that he does know is insufficient to fill him with misgiving and apprehension. So there is wrung from him the cry: "Who can understand his errors? Cleanse thou me from secret faults."

It is the sort of prayer that we all need to offer. Self-ignorance is so common, self-knowledge so rare. The great majority of us are strangers to our inward life and destiny.

One day Schopenhauer strayed ab-

NOTE: (It is a privilege to introduce the author, Robert James McCracken, D.D., successor to Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick at the Riverside Church, New York City. Dr. McCracken was born in Scotland and came to the Riverside Church from McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, where he was Professor of Theology.)



sent-mindedly into the Royal Gardens in Berlin, and at once a pompous little official strutted up to him and demanded, "Who are you, sir?" To which the philosopher replied, "I don't really know, but I shall be glad if you can tell me." The official took him for a lunatic whereas he was a man doing something

that is done all too seldom; he was pondering deeply the complexity and the mystery of the thing we call personality.

The world's great thinkers urge us in our own interest to do the same thing. "The proper study of mankind is man," wrote Alexander Pope. "Man, know thyself" was with Socrates an oft-repeated maxim, and his pupil Plato was accustomed to insist that the unexamined life is not livable for man, is indeed to be deplored as a brutish mode of existence, an intolerable state of affairs once an individual has some glimmering of what he was meant to be and of what he was meant to make of his life. You may recollect also that Paul, with characteristic plainness of speech, said to the Corinthians, "Let a man examine himself."

Quotations in a similar vein could easily be multiplied, and all to the same effect: Make a study of your-

self. Go in periodically for some serious stocktaking, for a mental and moral check-up. Examine your temperament, your tendencies, your prejudices, the whole of your interior life. Find out where you are weak and where you are strong. After all, it is your distinction, as it is your prerogative as a thinking being, to sit in judgment upon yourself. As a matter of fact, you can be judge, defendant, plaintiff and counsel all in one. And as you have probably discovered, this is the type of court in which it is a comparatively simple matter to quash the sentence and silence the judge.

"Let a man examine himself"—that is the advice of the world's greatest thinkers, but the majority of us pay scant attention to it. We have little skill in self-anatomy. We entertain the strangest illusions about ourselves, and illusions have a trick of becoming delusions. Robert Burns knew that and wrote—

*"O wad some power the giftie gie us,
To see oorsels as ithers see us,
It wad frae mony a blunder free us
And foolish notion."*

Jesus knew it and drew attention to it. Strange, he remarked, that we should see so clearly the tiny splinter in the eye of a neighbor and yet be unaware of the plank in our own eye. Have we not all known cases where an author, an artist, a clergyman has exhibited in his own person and actions glaring illustrations of the faults and foibles he has so minutely portrayed in others? All of which goes to show that we may have a pretty shrewd understanding of human nature and be able to size up our friends and acquaintances, and yet remain blind to our own strengths and weaknesses, our idiosyncrasies, our irra-

tional prejudices, our violent antipathies, our emotional susceptibility, our defects of temper and temperament.

The unexamined life may not be livable for man, but many people manage to eke out quite a tolerable existence with very little in the way of self-criticism.

There are reasons for this. In the case of a city like New York one thinks immediately of the rush and pace of life. Some of us are too busy to take time to interrogate ourselves as to our interior state. We live near the surface of things to be exercised about our inward physiology. A lady once asked Wilberforce how, being such an obviously busy man, with never a minute to spare and with scarcely a thought for anything save the abolition of the slave traffic, he found time to look after his soul. "Madam," he is said to have replied, "I had almost forgotten to have one."

Everybody knows the value of healthy activity, but not everybody knows—and some learn when it is late—that healthy activity is apt to be shallow and short-lived if it is not accompanied by an equally healthy and wholesome self-examination. A soul that is neglected takes its revenge. The hardening of the heart, the closing of the conscience, the loss of spiritual sensitiveness, are all in these separate ways moral reactions against self-ignorance.

It is not the rush and pace of life only. We shrink from looking inward because we recognize instinctively that introspection may prove a revealing and therefore a painful process. The Chinese are said to be fastidious of the dress which most effectively conceals their true figure. In a

actions we betray the same tendency. By a variety of what can only be called sophistries we attempt to free ourselves from ourselves.

We do questionable things, but as long as they are done we tell ourselves to stop thinking about them. We can train our minds to do that. When a student put it to me on one occasion, if thinking leads to uneasiness and discomfort, why think? In any way we are able to regard ourselves with a fair measure of competency, and if we do apply tests to ourselves there is nothing demanding about them.

At school did you ever form the impression that a particular teacher was partial to a particular scholar and asked him only those questions which he was sure to be able to answer? I aren't we all apt through an ingrained self-love—the thing the theologists have in mind when they speak of original sin—to be biased in our own favor and to dwell on our own points as though they constituted the very warp and woof of our character?

The Pharisee goes up to the Temple to pray. How he dwells on his best points and basks in the sunshine of his own approval! "I fast twice a week. I give tithes of all that I possess." He is complacency incarnate. Why? Because he knows nothing at first hand of self-examination. He is too busy passing judgments on his neighbors, making sweeping judgments! They are unjust, extortioners, adulterers; or the publican, he is utterly bewildered and pale. Self-complacency and self-anatomy are not good companions. They have nothing in common. The admission to the one and the other will quickly make for the door. There is another reason why self-

anatomy is unpopular. It is said to foster the morbid and neurotic tendency. No good can come, we are told, from keeping an apprehensive finger on one's spiritual pulse or from brooding persistently over one's qualities, motives, aims in all the varied relations of life. The more people look outward and the less they look inward, the healthier and the happier they will be. So we are enjoined to give up regarding ourselves as a collection of wheels and springs perpetually in need of oiling and repair. Forget yourself, so the injunction runs. Live an active, energetic life. If you must think, think not about yourself but about others. This all sounds plausible enough, nor is there any doubt that introspection has frequently been overdone. It was because he felt it had been overdone that Matthew Arnold wrote:

*"Weary of myself, and sick of asking
What I am and what I ought to be."*

This is the question: Are we to surrender a practice altogether because some folk abuse it? What would you think of a man who announced that he was going to abstain from all food on the score that certain persons known to him were making gluttons and gourmands of themselves? If you have read even a smattering of psychology you know that extroversion is just as much a failure to integrate and adjust the personality as introversion. The man who never puts a finger on his spiritual pulse is in just as grave a plight as the man who never has his finger off it.

Well, then, I have indicated three reasons why self-examination is taboo in many quarters today. Someone has said that if Socrates were to come back preaching "know thyself,"

he would quickly be invited to betake himself to another cup of hemlock. People snatch eagerly at any pretext for living mentally out of doors. Here is what H. G. Wells turned preacher, has to say about the matter:

"There is a great dread of lying awake at night manifest everywhere. The activity to escape mental solitude is remarkable. Most of the rushing about in motor cars is plainly due to that. Rich, aging Americans in particular, seem constantly in flight across the Atlantic from something that is always, nevertheless, waiting for them on the other side, whatever side it happens to be. There would not be all this vehement going to and fro if they were not afraid of something that sought them in quiet places. And what else can that something be than just these questions that keep on confronting us? 'There is only a little handful of water left now. What do you mean to do with it? What under the stars is the meaning of your life?' 'O, hell' they say at the first intimation of that whisper, 'where are we going tomorrow?'"

That is not an overdrawn picture, and it illustrates how thoroughgoing is the aversion to self-criticism.

But, it may well be asked, what are the advantages to be gained by subjecting oneself to a periodic and rigorous scrutiny? One of them is that we are thereby enabled to arrive at a better understanding of ourselves. That has been implicit in all that I have been saying. Let no one suppose that it is a small or trivial thing. Self-knowledge is absolutely indispensable if we are to pilot the ship of our life through the troubled waters that are all about us.

The greatest of all the arts is the art people bungle most—the art of happy and harmonious living. They bungle it because they devote so little attention to it. That is so whether you take the broad view and think of international relationships, or whether you take a much more restricted view

and think only of family relationships. Again and again friction, tension, heartaches are to be traced to something—the want of mutual understanding, a mother in the case of a daughter, a father in the case of a son.

To learn the art of living harmoniously we must acquire understanding, and if we are wise we shall make our point of beginning from within. We shall put to ourselves questions like these: Do I commit that fault? Have I acquired that virtue? Do I betray that weakness? Can I attain to a little more of that strength?

It goes without saying that anyone who interrogates himself in the fashion I am describing will often be humiliated and mortified by what he finds in himself. They tell a story of Scotland about an elderly woman somewhere in the Highlands who went up to Edinburgh for the first time, and while there she had a photograph taken. Later, when it was shown to her, she looked at it humbly and long and then, handing it back with an air of finality exclaimed, "I don't like it, but it's a humbling sight." That is a sort of discovery some of us are bound to make as soon as we look inward. It takes only a little introspection to humble our pride and bring us low, but it is a wholesome discipline which delivers us from conceit and confidence and induces the spirit of penitence and contrition. More than that, leading from that, it prompts the desire for amendment. We can never be satisfied with things as they are when we see how they are. We begin to want the things that are wrong, right, and the things that are shameful expelled, and the things that are doubtful cleared up or cleared away.

In all this I find myself thinking of a sentence in Carlyle: "It is not w

have or what I do but what I am
 it is my knigdom." If you want to
 ke a success of the art of living,
 you want to win friends and in-
 ence people, you must do it for the
 st part through your personality.
 tullian tells us that he, like the
 ority of converts in his time, were
 wn to Christ and the Christian
 y of life, not by reading the Scrip-
 es or hearing them expounded but
 watching how the Christians lived
 and died. At first they watched out of
 riosity, but curiosity gave way to
 cination, and fascination to yearn-
 ; they found themselves over-
 elmed by a desire to lay hold of
 e secret these men had. That is how
 e Christian religion has always
 ead. But, as A. J. Gossip remarks,
 ay some outside the Church inform
 without mincing words that they
 e where they are because they see
 difference between us and them-
 ves. Cross us, they allege, and we
 e just as irritable as they are;
 tch us in business and we are every
 as grasping; make what we do
 h our leisure and we are equally
 nt on having a good time. If, as
 ristians, we are to make an impact
 the life of our day and generation
 will mainly be by personal weight,
 t sheer strength and force and dis-
 ctiveness of character, and we
 not acquire that until we give less
 ed to what we have and to what we
 and more to what we are.

How, then, are we to achieve self-
 owledge? By self-examination; by
 ayer, which is itself a study in self-
 amination; by reading the Bible;
 ve and beyond everything else, by
 eeping company with Jesus Christ.
 e highest self-knowledge comes
 m association with him. In the
 ver of London there are kept the

standard weights and measures to
 which the pound weight and yard
 stick of every merchant in the British
 Isles must conform. That is what
 Christ is for us—the Standard, the
 Criterion, the perfect Pattern, and it
 is when we measure ourselves, not
 with others but with him, that we
 learn the truth about ourselves.

Think of the influence of Jesus on
 Simon Peter. One has the impression
 that Peter was a happy-go-lucky sort
 of individual, tolerably pleased with
 himself, not much given to self-dis-
 section. But one day in a fishing boat
 there flashed into his soul a revealing
 ray from the presence of Christ, and
 all the old self-satisfaction, based as it
 was on self-ignorance, shrivelled into
 nothingness, and he fell at his Master's
 feet crying, "Depart from me, for I
 am a sinful man, O Lord." That day
 Peter looked into himself and, for the
 first time, saw himself with the eyes
 of Christ. And when we do that, when
 we see ourselves, not as others see us
 but as Christ sees us, from us too
 there is wrung the cry, "Depart from
 us, for we are sinful men." But he
 does not depart. He comes nearer and
 nearer and offers us cleansing and
 pardon and power. And if we know
 the things that belong to our peace we
 shall take all that he has to offer and
 then shall ask for more.

Four lines from Browning's *Soul*
 sum up all that I have been endeavor-
 ing to say:

*"And thus looking within and around
 me I ever renew,
 (With that stoop of the soul which
 in bending upraises it too),
 The submission of man's nothing-
 perfect to God's all-complete,
 As by each new obeisance in spirit,
 I climb to his feet."*



Former Chaplains . .

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AMICK, HOWARD W.	Mt. Vernon Lutheran Church, Elderton, Penn
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ARNOLD, ADAM Z.	First Baptist Church, Roslindale, Ma
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BELLES, ALFRED G.	Holy Communion Lutheran Church, Detroit, MI
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BROWN, LAWRENCE L.	Trinity Episcopal Church, Longview, Te
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GRIMM, CARL A.	First Evangelical & Reformed Church, High Point, N
GROFF, HAROLD B.	Disciples of Christ First Christian Church, Greenville,
HAYNE, ORLANDO V.	Evangelical Church, Arlington, V
HELT, L. R.	St. John's Evangelical Church, Bethlehem, Pe

- *The challenge of the small communities is offered to all*

A City Preacher Goes to the Country

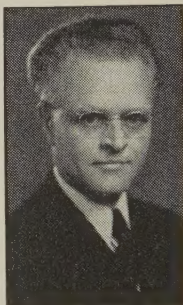
By DELMAR L. DYRESON

ONE of these days I'm going to change my busy city parish for a quiet parish in the country" says many a minister wearying under the stresses and strains of a metropolitan church. But here is the story of a minister who did it.

In 1945, red-blooded, energetic and devout Alvin A. Snæsruð, graduate of St. Olaf College and Luther Theological Seminary, with a background of distinguished metropolitan pastorates in Los Angeles and Chicago, came to Moe Parish Hudson, Lincoln County, South Dakota.

"Out of the heart of the big city into wide open country, ten miles from the nearest town! Visting the field for the first time I was immediately captivated with the challenging possibilities for rural youth work . . . a dream and passion with me since my own childhood on the farm near Rochester, Minnesota," smiled Pastor Snæsruð.

"The ten acres in connection with the parsonage at once became intriguing. What possibilities! Chickens, cows, pigs . . . eggs, milk, pork! Yes, strictly speaking, here were 'limited' possibilities. In days of economic inflation, with soaring prices and limited supplies these factors might have loomed in importance too. But they were



A. Snæsruð

completely forgotten in the dream and vision that came to us," continued the vigorous Snæsruð.

"Why not set these ten acres of God's choice aside and dedicate them to the cultivation of Christian character by providing a recreational center for the youth of the parish and the community?"

Looking at this parcel of pasture Snæsruð saw instead greenware trees and shrubs. He saw sandboxes, swings, merry-go-round and play house (formerly a brooder house), the latter painted in many colors and equipped with doll furniture. He envisioned picnic facilities for large and small groups with outdoor fireplace, provisions for horseshoe, croquet, basketball, minton, volley ball, tennis, shuffleboard, ping-pong, soft ball, miniature golf, and ice skating in season. What primarily for youth the entire family should feel welcome here. The vision expanded to include the old barn finished in knotty pine, equipped with a large fireplace and Pullman kitchen. Young people of the community gathered around the fire, chatting, visiting, holding discussions and enjoying themselves in wholesome Christian fellowship.

Children, youth, middle-aged and elderly people caught the vision; they prayed, they planned, they worked

They gave gifts. This parish consisting of 1,122 souls in three rural congregations, namely: Lands, Romsdal and Trinity, each eight miles from the recreation center went to work ten miles from the nearest town, tavern and dance hall. Here would be a plot of ground as sacred and important as the very soil upon which a sanctuary of God is built.

South Dakota State College horticulturists were consulted with respect to ground layouts and planting; parishioners provided money (more than \$700), materials and services so the regular church budget was not disturbed.

With mowing machines, trucks, bulldozer, water wagon and smaller implements the people came and worked. They removed rubbish, they moved and repaired various buildings, they leveled the ground and they laid foundations. Forty-six school children split and ricked wood to be used for the fireplaces. Black Hills spruce, American and Chinese elms, mountain ash, flowering crabs, birch and other trees were planted, many of them having been given as living memorials in honor of loved ones departed.

The entire community, a majority being Scandinavian-Americans, was mented together as never before.

Pastor Snedrud further explained: "We have never experienced a finer Christian attitude and determination than found in this undertaking. The deep-rooted devotional attitude of the pioneers has shown itself to a remarkable degree and they insist it must all be done in the Christ spirit."

To demonstrate the reality of this deeply reverent mood a prayer room will be placed in the Youth Center which was once the old barn. This building will have a small room in the

Attention!

TWELVE COMPLETE ISSUES

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balcony at one end, about six by eight feet in dimensions, for private meditation and prayer, to be furnished with tiny pews, altar, cross, Bible and kneeling bench.

For the records 8 mm. motion pictures in color have been and are being made as the work progresses. A scrap book is also kept by the young folk.

A full-time worker from May to September with power mower and other equipment maintains this park, together with the grounds and cemeteries of the three churches.

Working on a voluntary pay-as-you-go basis under a five year plan, it is estimated that the actual cash investment will be between \$10,000 and \$15,000.

Reverently the Pastor said, "We look to the future with confidence knowing that with God's approval on our work there is no limit to what may be done."

From the beginning and throughout spiritual emphasis has been the keynote of this project which is an expression of the Christian heartbeat of a rural community.

PERSONALS

CHAPLAIN STANLEY P. GASEK presented eight officers of the Chinese army with six other people to the Rt. Rev. John Moore Walker, D.D., bishop of Atlanta, for Confirmation at the Chapel at Fort Benning. The Chinese officers are part of the thirty men selected by the Chinese Government to study in the United States, seven of whom were baptized by Chaplain Gasek. They represent the finest young men of China.



Speaking at St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church, New York City, CHAPLAIN MARTIN C. POCH said Japan's Christians are "setting the pace" in

housing refugees made homeless by bombing. He said further, "GIs, together with the Japanese Christians set a wonderful example for the civilian population still dazed by the destruction of their homes and villages."



CHAPLAIN H. F. GERECKE, Protestant chaplain at Nuremberg, refused to give communion to Herman Goering, prior to his death, because "he (Goering) argued against the validity of the Scriptures, ruled out all the miracles, and denied the divinity of Jesus Christ."



The Chaplain of the U. S. Military Academy, JOHN B. WALTHOUR has submitted his resignation effective June 6, 1947, to accept a position as dean of the Episcopal Cathedral in Atlanta, Ga.

The Editor Speaks

(Continued from page 2)

press as it did on September 24, 1946. Mr. Chen Chia Poh, of the Chinese Embassy in Washington says it is the most accurate translation of the Psalms into Chinese, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek having personally made three revisions of it before final publication.

Extreme care was said to have been made in order to achieve a high degree of poetic rhythm, together with sound interpretation; it will therefore likely be one of the most widely read books among the Chinese people.

The following sources were used as a basis for the translation:

The Holy Bible (translated from the Latin Vulgate); *The Psalms* (New

Latin-English Version approved by Pope Pius XII); Callan and McHugh, *The Psalms Explained*; Pannier, *Les Psalms d'après l'hebrieu*; Crampou, *La Sainte Bible*; Fillion, *Le Livre des Psalmes*; Calès, *Le Livre des Psalme* Bird, *Commentary on the Psalm* King James' Version of *The Holy Bible*; Delitzsch, *Commentary on the Psalms*; Kirkpatrick, *The Book of Psalms*; American Standard Version of *The Holy Bible*; *Die Bibel, Nach der deutschen Uebersetzung D. Martin Luthers*; *The Holy Bible, a New Translation*, James Moffat; and *The Treasury of David*, Spurgeon.

Lent

LENT BEGINS February
MAUNDY THURSDAY April
GOOD FRIDAY April
EASTER SUNDAY April

Group Prejudice—A Postwar Menace: The American Brotherhood of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc., asks your help with this campaign, approved with top priority by hundreds of America's most responsible leaders.

... BECAUSE in the midst of present postwar tensions public opinion surveys show that racial and religious antagonisms exist.

... BECAUSE experience after the last war, both here and abroad, indicates that such antagonisms, following in the wake of war, menace existing institutions—interfere with production in offices, shops, mines, factories—constantly threaten to break it into open acts of destructive violence.

... BECAUSE division at home creates an impression throughout the world that America is weak, and lowers our country's position and prestige in world affairs.

As President Truman has said in his letter accepting Honorary Chairmanship of this campaign, "We cannot commend brotherhood abroad unless we practice it at home."

Reconversion: More than \$70,000,000 worth of surplus war-built government buildings will be converted into urgently needed college classrooms, laboratories, and other educational facilities for veterans. Church-related institutions of higher learning will benefit from this recent order issued by the Civilian Production Administration.

At a special session of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, a resolution was passed which forbids ministers of that denomination to hold any public appointment "unless of a casual kind or as a chaplain" or to sit as members of the Northern Ireland Parliament. The Minister of Agriculture and a member of the Ulster Senate, who was formerly Minister of Education, are both Presbyterian clergymen.

Friends: After more than a century of separation, the two main branches of the Society of Friends in Philadelphia have united to form the "Philadelphia General Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends."

Code: It is learned from information released in Washington that a Navajo dialect proved to be an unbreakable code which foiled the Japanese in the Pacific theater.

James Wesley McClain, the "Dr. I.Q." of radio fame, who left the airwaves last June to study for the ministry, has been ordained deacon recently in his home town of Louisville, Kentucky, by Bishop Charles Clingman. This is the first step toward achievement of Episcopal priesthood.

Push-button music: A chapel where music for meditation will be provided by a "push-button" recording system has been opened at the Mount Vernon Place Methodist Church, Washington,

D. C. The chapel is open to the public twenty-four hours a day.

A monument to the memory of the Rt. Reverend James Edward Freeman, third Episcopal Bishop of Washington, has been dedicated in the north transept of the Washington Cathedral. The memorial—a figure of Bishop Freeman executed from a block of pink Tennessee marble by the sculptor, Bryant Baker of New York, was dedicated and blessed by the Rt. Reverend Angus Dun, Bishop of Washington, assisted by the Very Reverend John Wallace Suter, dean of the Cathedral.

A number of Finnish parliament members of varying political beliefs, except those from the Communist-dominated party, have formed a Bible study group. Organizers include several Lutheran clergymen, most of whom represent conservative political parties in parliament.

Clergymen in France cooperated with American Army Chaplains in All Souls Day to hold memorial services for war dead in twenty-four American military cemeteries throughout France.

One thousand German PWs attended a special thanksgiving service at Durham Cathedral, England. The PWs were praised for their part in gathering the harvest.

The Florida State Supreme Court has upheld a Miami ordinance forbidding liquor stores within 300 feet of a church or school.

The International Film Foundation, Inc., will distribute, through

regular channels, films of various countries throughout the world in an effort to promote better understanding and to give a more accurate portrayal of foreign nations.

Campus religion: At George Washington University, Washington, D. C. 3,500 students have indicated interest in one or the other of the religious organizations on the campus.

Young people of the University Congregational Church, Seattle, Washington, will make a transcontinental singing tour at their own expense next summer in an effort to raise funds for the Congregational Christian Committee for War Victims and Reconstruction.

The World Day of Prayer will be held on February 21, 1947.

Canon Bernard Iddings Bell "reaches the riot act" on the relegation of religion to the attic by universities where he spoke at the University of Chicago's Rockefeller chapel recently. As a result of this practice, he said, scholars eventually discover that man is wickedness, not in ignorance, has taken the results of their research and used it for his destruction instead of for his good.

The scholar knows himself to be the victim of sin even as he becomes less capable of dealing with sin. "Yet all the while," Dr. Bell declared, "religion is scarcely considered as within the ambit of the modern university except for pedantic and specialized research or for ministerial training. In consequence, far too many scholars and aspirants to scholarship attempt to deal with the fundamental human

problems simply by denying that these problems matter very much."

(*The Christian Herald*)

Japan: Speaking at a meeting in New York concerned with Japan, Brigadier General Bonner Fellers, recently returned from the staff of General MacArthur said, "Dr. Kagawa is free to work among the people throughout the country. He is converting fifty people a day."

Army Chaplains Meet in Japan: Some thirty-five chaplains from occupation units in Japan attended the November meeting of the Japan chapter of the Army-Navy Chaplain's Association in the Yokohama Base Chapel Wednesday to hear brief talks by Eighth Army Chaplain, Col. H. C.

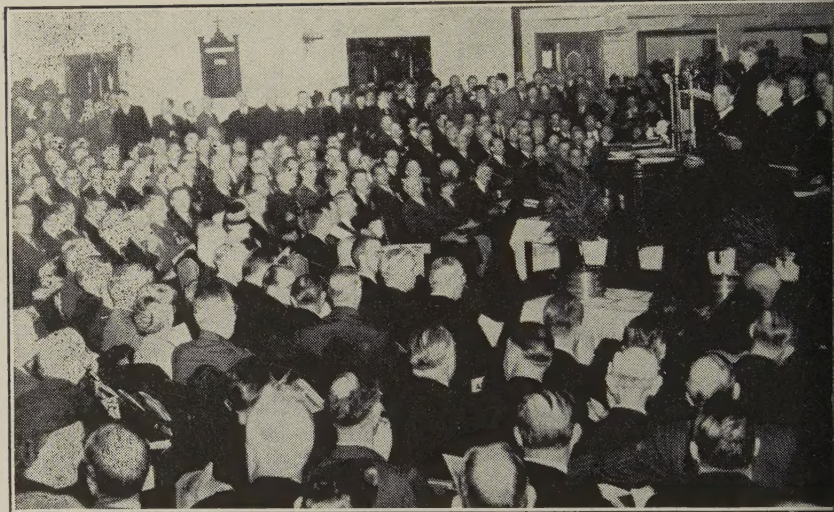
Fraser, and Lt. Col. F. W. Goates, Chief of the Information and Education Section.

Chaplain Fraser, who presided at the meeting, in his introductory remarks stressed the importance of a sense of mission to the chaplains serving in the occupation, emphasizing his duty in helping the Army to present Western civilization, American democracy, and the Christian faith to the people of Japan.

Colonel Goates in his address highlighted the opportunities the Army's Information and Education Section offers the service man for self-improvement, and for keeping abreast of current news and cultural interests through Information and Education sponsored newspaper, radio and entertainment programs. (See photo.)



YOKOHAMA CHAPLAINS' MEETING: (Left to right) Front Row: Chaplains Wm. B. Crocker, John Wishart, Aaron D. Mann, Albert F. Sargent; Col. F. W. Goates; Ch. John P. Duggan, Louis S. Cordill, James Watt, Roy A. Morden; (2nd Row) W. G. McLeod, N. T. Helm, O. V. J. Jins, B. B. Bailey, H. C. Fraser, V. A. Hetherington, Orville Dennis; (3rd Row) W. N. West, W. K. Tomme, B. G. Perry, W. J. Christ; (4th Row) J. C. Rodlinski, W. M. McCracken, L. M. Adler, A. P. Diemer, L. A. Thompson; (5th Row) C. B. Norton, T. B. Perry, Wm. A. Flynn, Herman J. Kregel, P. W. Chunn, Jr.; (6th Row) E. F. Kendle, Wm. J. Jins, A. P. Bailey; (Top Row) Hirsh Jacob, S. H. Duggan, Earl D. Seney, R. A. Malloy.



RNS Photo

Evangelicals, United Brethren Achieve Unity: Thirteen years of planning were successfully ended as representatives to the united General Conference of the Evangelical Church and the Church of the United Brethren in Christ attended historic session at which the union of their churches was announced, forming the new Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Award: An "Award for Distinguished Churchmanship" has been conferred by the Church Federation of Los Angeles upon Mr. Herbert G. Wylie, businessman and for more than 50 years an elder of the Presbyterian Church. The citation noted among other things Mr. Wylie's "Valuable assistance to Christian Education, Evangelism, his denomination, and to Christian Unity." It was Mr. Wylie who made possible the building now occupied by the Los Angeles Federation.

Bicycles for clergy: One hundred German clergymen are being provided with bicycles by the World Council of Churches to enable them to minister to German prisoners in scattered labor service camps in France. Military authorities have permitted

the clergymen to travel without escort but since they are not allowed to use railroads, many have had to travel on foot.

The Seventh Day Adventist Council on Industrial Relations has made agreements with labor unions to exempt Adventists from membership union activity, but they will pay the equivalent of union dues to specifically named charitable and sick benefit funds.

Citations: The first annual citations for distinguished Christian service were presented by the *Christian Herald* at a luncheon held in New York to Ivan M. Gould, Carroll Wright and Clarence W. Hall for their work during the war with the Service Men's Christian League and its publication *The Link*.